

Seneca County Park District Board of Park Commissioners

May 11, 2021 – 9:00AM

Roppe Lodge, Fruth Wetland Nature Preserve - 10130 W. SR 18, Fostoria OH 44830 and online

Meeting Minutes

Lori Hall called the meeting to order at 8:59 AM.

Roll Call:	Jakob Boehler	<u>present</u>	Sarah Betts	<u>present</u>
	Lori Hall	<u>present</u>	Shelly Smola	<u>present</u>
	Lee Martin	<u>present</u>		
	Bill McAllister	<u>present</u>		
	Janet Shutt	<u>present</u> (via Zoom)		

Staff & Guests: Troy Gibson, Linda Rose, Catherine Gase & Vicki Johnson.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Lee Martin to approve the meeting agenda & minutes of the 4/13/21 regular meeting and the 4/23/21 special meeting. Motion was seconded by Bill McAllister, and was approved unanimously.

Financial Reports: A motion to approve the financial statements was made by Jakob Boehler and seconded by Bill McAllister. Motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Director's Report presented by Sarah Betts (see attachment for full report).

- A memorial for long-time SCPD volunteer Jim Coffman was held at Garlo Heritage Nature Preserve last month, and memorial donations will be used to construct a bird blind in honor of his memory at the Fruth Wetland Nature Preserve.
- Preliminary plans are being reviewed for the ODNR Abbot's River Access at Steyer Nature Preserve.
- We are still waiting to hear back on master plan development for Steyer Nature Preserve and Fruth Wetland Nature Preserve. Preliminary drawings are expected to be available soon.
- The kayaks purchased with grant funds for use in the Paddle Seneca County initiative have been picked up.
- The Friends of the Seneca County Park District have purchased a kayak trailer for the Park to use in the program, and it should be delivered in the near future.
- Two new staff members will join the Park District on Monday, May 17th. Ashton Stevenson is the new Natural Resource Coordinator and Kim Wickman is the new Operations Manager.
- A Storybook Trail project is still being explored in partnership with the Kaubisch Memorial Public Library, however the cost is considerable. The units for the trail are \$302 per unit and approximately 36 units would be needed. Sponsorship and/or potential grant funding ideas were discussed.

Programs Report presented by Linda Rose

- Programs continue to go well.
- Nine classes are scheduled for field trips at Garlo Heritage Nature Preserve in the month of May.
- Summer camp registration remains open, with camps filling up fast.
- The 2021 summer program schedule has been set.

Nature Preserves Report presented by Troy Gibson

- The Clinton Nature Preserve access paving project was completed. The project was funded in full by ODNR/ODOT.
- All tree stands have been removed from Steyer Nature Preserve.

Public Comment: Catherine shared that the Friends annual meeting will be held on June 9th at 5:00pm in the shelter house at Garlo Heritage Nature Preserve. There will be no potluck this year. If the weather is inclement, the meeting will be inside the preschool building.

Old Business:

Summer meeting schedule – locations & times: The Community Park Tour Summer Schedule was established as follows:

- June 8 at 2:30pm – Steyer Nature Preserve
- July 13 at 2:30pm – Garlo Heritage Nature Preserve
- Aug. 10 at 2:30pm – Fruth Wetland Nature Preserve
- Sept. 14 at 2:30pm – Bowen Nature Preserve

New Business:

Employee Guide Updates: Approving minor changes to the Employee Guide. Sarah provided a brief overview of proposed changes. It was determined that changes will not need to be reviewed by committee because they are minimal. A motion was made by Lee Martin, seconded by Jakob Boehler and was approved unanimously.

Executive Session: N/A

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Bill McAllister, seconded by Jakob Boehler, and was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 AM.

Next Meetings:

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| June 8 | 2:30 PM | Community Park Tour – Steyer Nature Preserve |
| July 13 | 2:30 PM | Community Park Tour – Garlo Heritage Nature Preserve |

Respectfully Submitted by: Shelly Smola, Secretary